

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 217171
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 L-03 /046 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:DLMCELHANEY:IW
APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH
-----117780 261158Z /43

R 252137Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
INFO AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217171

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PDIP, BN

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR BOYA'S CALL AT DEPARTMENT

1. BENINESE AMBASSADOR BOYA CALLED ON AF/W DIRECTOR AT HIS REQUEST FOR SHORT MEETING ON AUGUST 22. BOYA STATED THAT HE WAS OUT OF TOWN WHEN CHARGE DAVISON CALLED AT THE BENIN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE HOPES TO HAVE THE OCCASION TO MEET DAVISON WHEN HE (BOYA) TRAVELS TO COTONOU NEXT WEEK FOR A THREE WEEK STAY.

2. BOYA AGAIN RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHEN THE US WOULD CONSIDER SENDING AN AMBASSADOR TO BENIN. WE NOTED THERE IS LITTLE ENTHUSIASM WITHIN USG FOR SUCH A MOVE IN THE ABSENCE OF POSITIVE STEPS BY BENIN TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS. WE NOTED THAT THE NEXT UNGA OFFERS BENIN AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE ITS DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS. WE ADDED THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE BENNETT CASE WAS A STEP IN THIS DIRECTION. WE GAVE BOYA
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A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STATE OF PLAY IN WESTERN SAHARA, NAMIBIA, RHODESIA, AND THE HORN, NOTED OUR CONTINUING CONCERN OVER THE CUBAN PRESENCE IN AFRICA, AND EXPLAINED US SUPPORT FOR ECOWAS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO BOYA'S QUERY REGARDING POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO REPAIR THE DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE 1977

MERCENARY ATTACK, WE REPLIED THAT BENIN ALREADY HAD
OUR RESPONSE, AND DOUBTED WHETHER THE US WOULD BE
WILLING TO ASSIST IN THAT CONTEXT. WE NOTED, HOWEVER,
THAT U.S. IS PREPARED TO EXAMINE CAREFULLY REQUESTS FOR
ASSISTANCE THAT FURTHER LONG TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: AMBASSADORS, MEETING REPORTS
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: PDIP, DM, (BOYA, THOMAS SETONDJI), (MOOSE, RICHARD M)
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